

## Minutes Tempe Police Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Board February 4, 2021

Minutes of the Tempe Police Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Board meeting hosted virtually via Cisco Webex on Thursday, February 4, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

**Board Members Present (via Cisco Webex):**

Steven Methvin  
Rob Ferraro  
Alex Moreno  
Johnny Tse

**Board Members Absent:**

Bill Goodman

**City Staff Present (via Cisco Webex):**

Rebecca Strisko, Deputy Internal Services Director-HR  
Tammy Milhon, HR Specialist  
Matt Quick, HR Specialist  
Chris Hansen, Risk Manager  
Nichole Martinez, Worker's Compensation Program Specialist  
Susan Buck, Executive Assistant

**Legal Counsel Present (via Cisco Webex):**

Lesli Sorensen

*Chair Steven Methvin called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.*

**1. Consideration of Meeting Minutes:**

Motion by Johnny Tse to approve the January 7, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes; second by Alex Moreno.  
Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin, Boardmembers Ferraro, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Goodman

**2. Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session, if necessary:**

See Item No. 8.

**3. Prior Service (acknowledgement only, no action taken):**

The Board acknowledged the 0.075 years of prior Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) service of **K'lee Arredondo**.

**4. New Member:**

Motion by Alex Moreno to approve the new member application of **Brenden M. Miracle**; second by Johnny Tse. Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin, Boardmembers Ferraro, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Goodman

**5. Applications to Enter the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP):**

Motion by Rob Ferraro to approve the following applications to enter DROP:

- **Anna M. Cano**
- **Michael Hayes**
- **Kenneth Scheffner, Jr.**
- **James C. Sweig**

Second by Johnny Tse; motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin, Boardmembers Ferraro, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Goodman

**6. Application to Retire from the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP):**

Motion by Alex Moreno to approve the application of **David Humble** to retire from DROP, with a retirement date of March 18, 2021; second by Johnny Tse. Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin, Boardmembers Ferraro, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Goodman

**7. Application for Survivor's Benefit:**

Motion by Rob Ferraro to approve the application for survivor's benefits of **Nancy Burns, surviving spouse of Ronald R. Burns**; second by Alex Moreno. Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin, Boardmembers Ferraro, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Goodman

**8. Initial Hearing on Applications for Accidental Disability Benefits:**

- **Joseph Manchak**
- **Jordan Redd**

**Joseph Manchak:**

Executive Assistant Susan Buck stated that Mr. Manchak was present for the hearing in order to address any questions the Board might have. Chair Steven Methvin noted at this initial hearing on the application for accidental disability benefits of Joseph Manchak, the Board must determine whether the documentation submitted is sufficient to satisfy the statutory requirements in order for the Board to direct that Mr. Manchak be sent for an Independent Medical Examination (IME).

Chair Methvin asked if anyone wished to address the Board; there was no request to do so. Chair Methvin then opened the item for discussion by the Board. There was no discussion. Chair Methvin noted there were three general options available – to send the claimant for an IME, to request additional information or to deny the claim.

Motion by Rob Ferraro based on evidence in file to direct that **Joseph Manchak** be sent for an IME and to have the IME results sent to the Board; second by Johnny Tse. Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin, Boardmembers Ferraro, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Goodman

**Jordan Redd:**

Chair Steven Methvin noted at this initial hearing on the application for accidental disability benefits of Jordan Redd, the Board must determine whether the documentation submitted is sufficient to satisfy the statutory requirements in order for the Board to direct that Mr. Redd be sent for an Independent Medical Examination (IME).

Chair Methvin asked if there was anyone who wished to address the Board. Mr. Redd's attorney, Dale Norris, introduced himself and noted that records submitted to the Board demonstrate the requirements of the statute and are sufficient to refer him to an Independent Medical Examination.

Chair Methvin opened the item for discussion by the Board. Board Legal Counsel Lesli Sorensen stated there were a few items she would like to address with the Board. Motion by Rob Ferraro to adjourn to Executive Session; second by Alex Moreno. Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin, Boardmembers Ferraro, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Goodman

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 2:14 pm. The meeting reconvened at 3:07 pm.

Boardmember Ferraro stated that while the medical records appear complete, there is additional information that would be useful both for the Board and also for the IME doctor regarding military history. Motion by Rob Ferraro to obtain additional information in the form of records obtained directly from the VA by staff and to continue the hearing until the additional information can be submitted to the Board for review; second by Alex Moreno. Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin, Boardmembers Ferraro, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Goodman

Ms. Sorensen confirmed that she would confer with Mr. Norris regarding the additional information being requested.

**9. Status Update on Applications for Accidental Disability Benefits:**

- **Tracie Smith**
- **Matthew Nunemacher**

**Tracie Smith:**

Local Board Secretary Rebecca Strisko stated that Tracie Smith's initial hearing was held on December 3, 2020 and continued to the January 7, 2021 meeting pending receipt of additional information from her Workers' Compensation file. The additional information was considered by the Board at the January 7, 2021 meeting and Ms. Smith was approved to move forward to an Independent Medical Exam (IME). Ms. Smith is scheduled for an IME on February 16, 2021 and when the IME report is received, it will be submitted for Board consideration.

**Matthew Nunemacher:**

Ms. Strisko stated that Matthew Nunemacher's initial hearing was held on January 7, 2021 and the Board denied his application due to lack of medical evidence. Staff was subsequently notified that Mr. Nunemacher will be represented by attorney Dale Norris, who submitted a request to appeal the

Board's decision on January 13, 2021. As per his request, scheduling of the rehearing is pending in order to provide him time to gather additional information to submit to the Board. Ms. Strisko noted that staff anticipates the rehearing will be on the March 4, 2021 agenda. Mr. Norris was present and stated that he did not have an additional status update to provide at this time.

**10. PSPRS News & Updates:**

Ms. Strisko stated the PSPRS annual employer and local board conference is taking place this month. The conference is virtual and started yesterday, with two additional days scheduled next week. Information on the conference was also previously provided in the board meeting packet.

**11. Future Meeting Date:**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2021.

**12. Future Agenda Items:**

Ms. Sorensen requested an item be added to the March agenda in order to provide the Board with an overview of pending legislation pertaining to local board issues.

**13. Public Appearances:**

Executive Assistant Susan Buck stated there were no requests submitted to address the Board.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Rob Ferraro; second by Alex Moreno. Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin, Boardmembers Ferraro, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Goodman

The meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.



Rebecca Strisko, Local Board Secretary